

especially true of women from high-risk groups, such as those with previous mastectomy or with fibrocystic disease, and milliparous women with family history of breast cancer.

M. B. SHIMKIN, M.D.

#### REFERENCES

- Venet L, Strax P, Venet W, et al: Adequacies and inadequacies of breast examinations by physicians. *Cancer* 24:1187-91, Dec 1969
- Gershon-Cohen J, Hermel MB: Modalities in breast cancer detection: xeroradiography, mammography, thermography and mammometry. *Cancer* 24:1226-30, Dec 1969

## Pregnant Teenagers

The teenage girl who is pregnant faces very serious problems and needs the sympathetic assistance of physicians. The medical problem involves

diagnosis of pregnancy and decision as to whether the patient should have an abortion or continue her pregnancy. If she elects to continue the pregnancy, plans must be developed for the care of the baby by the pregnant girl herself or by her family or through adoption.

New legislation on therapeutic abortions poses new and difficult decisions for physicians. It is also important that the emotional stability of the patient be protected, that her schooling be continued if possible, and that parental help and understanding be enlisted if the decision is made to continue pregnancy.

Health departments throughout the state are faced with this problem and many stand ready to assist the physician in dealing with it.

H. D. CHOPE, M.D., DR. P.H.

#### REFERENCE

- Special information prepared by Research and Statistics Section, Department of Public Health and Welfare, San Mateo County, 1969

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